



County of San Luis Obispo • Public Health Department

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Gregory W. Thomas, M.D., M.P.H.
County Health Officer
Public Health Department Director

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To: All San Luis Obispo County Physicians

From: Gregory W. Thomas, M.D., County Health Officer

RE: West Nile Virus Cases Reportable

Dear Physician:

Effective immediately, West Nile Virus (WNV) infection is reportable within San Luis Obispo County by authority of the Health Officer under California Code of Regulations, Title 17 Section 2511. Physicians and laboratories must report all positive WNV tests to the Public Health Department.

Section 2511 of Title 17, CCR states: *"It shall be the duty of the local health officer to determine the amount and kind of communicable disease occurring in his area by such methods as he deems necessary in order to obtain knowledge of the general level of morbidity in his jurisdiction."* Requiring WNV to be reported will provide the necessary information to monitor this disease and to prepare appropriate public information for the residents of San Luis Obispo County.

Persons with positive WNV tests must be reported within one (1) working day via the standard Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) form and faxed to the Public Health Department at 781-5543. Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) forms are available on the Public Health Department website at www.slopublichealth.org/contact/forms/htm.

A West Nile Virus Case History form will be accepted as an alternate form for reporting. Completion of this form is required to order WNV antibody testing through the Public Health Laboratory. A California Encephalitis Project (CEP) form is also an acceptable alternative reporting form. These forms are also available on the Public Health Department website.

Further information or West Nile Virus information is available at www.slopublichealth.org in the *West Nile Virus - Clinician Information* section and associated links.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 781-5519 or gthomas@co.slo.ca.us, if you have any questions.